

U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps (USNSCC) was recognized on February 1, 2022, in his promotion to the rank of Cadet Chief Petty Officer.

Chartered in 1962 by an act of Congress, the Naval Sea Cadet Corps is a non-profit youth group that helps provide young Americans aged 10 through 18 with key maritime, leadership and teamwork skills. Supporting 9,000 cadets in 380 units in 47 states including Connecticut, the program also provides young Americans with valuable experience that they can use if they go on to join the Armed Services. For Cadet Chief Petty Officer Whiteside, this has meant their longtime membership in the Nautilus Division, which is stationed at the home of our nation's undersea force, SUBASE New London.

Madam Speaker, as a member of the House Armed Service Committee, which has made sure that Congress follows through on its commitments to this program, I know firsthand the valuable work that the cadets and their leaders do each and every day. This year the Nautilus Division recognizes the dedication and work ethic of Joe, and it is conferring the honor of being promoted to the position of Cadet Chief Petty Officer during the Corps' 60th anniversary of preparing our nation's next generation of leaders. To that end, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in thanking Cadet Chief Petty Officer Whiteside for his initiative and wishing him well in his future endeavor. Bravo Zulu.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. BENITO
ANTONIO MARTINEZ OCASIO

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of Benito Antonio Martinez Ocasio.

Benito Antonio Martinez Ocasio was born on March 10, 1994, in Almirante Sur, Vega Baja, Puerto Rico. Mr. Martinez Ocasio wanted to be a singer since he was five years old and pursued the studied audiovisual communication at the University of Puerto Rico at Recinto de Arecibo before leaving the program to pursue his music career.

A native of Puerto Rico, Martinez Ocasio, has been a great force in the rise of the island's popular reggaeton music. His parents Lysaurie Ocasio Declet and Tito Martinez and family inspired his music aspirations. His mother Lysaurie encouraged Martinez Ocasio into music at a young age in his church choir.

Benito's family instilled in him the belief that life is not measured by the amount of money or trophies a person has but rather the challenges overcome and an appreciation for life.

Mr. Martinez Ocasio is actively involved in the betterment of his community, Los Angeles County, and in neighborhoods across our great nation including his hometown of Almirante Sur, Vega Baja, Puerto Rico. He has been recognized by countless local leaders in Los Angeles County and throughout California for his tremendous support to the community and dedication to assisting those in need.

In 2018, Martinez Ocasio was vacationing in Puerto Rico when he decided to make a gen-

erous donation of \$100,000 to the nonprofit organization SER of Puerto Rico. The donation supported children with autism and muscular disabilities who require rehabilitation. At the end of a telethon that he participated in, SER received \$1.7 million in donations. Martinez Ocasio has been a role model for disability communities and is working to ensure that one day the cure for autism is found. One in thirty five children born today will have Autism, but people like Mr. Martinez Ocasio have given hope to millions in the fight to find the cure one day.

Martinez Ocasio has not forgotten his humble roots and the neighborhood that had a profound impact on his upbringing and has given back his time and resources to his community. In one instance, Martinez Ocasio helped a 13-year-old Cayman Islands boy who was residing in a hospital and in need of thousands of dollars to cover his medical expenses including a needed heart transplant surgery. When the boy's story caught his attention, Martinez Ocasio brought public awareness to the boy's critical need for an expensive surgery and called on other artists as well as ordinary people to donate any amount they could afford. Together they successfully raised the necessary resources for the boy's surgery.

Martinez Ocasio has led the way in helping others in California in the City and County of Los Angeles, focusing on assisting Angelinos with developmental disabilities. He has established himself as a leader and a charitable American utilizing his talents to create unique opportunities for all ages to thrive and impact the world.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Benito Antonio Martinez Ocasio and applauding his contributions and philanthropic endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE GOLDEN ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE TOLEDO CHAP-
TER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA
SORORITY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Toledo Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Its members will gather in a special celebration in Toledo, Ohio on Saturday February 12, 2022 to celebrate this milestone occasion.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is an organization of college educated women dedicated to public service and the development of women, with a focus on the Black community. Its world-wide services offer support through the organization's "Five-Point Programmatic Thrust: Economic Development; Educational Development; International Awareness and Involvement; Physical and Mental Health; and Political Awareness and Involvement."

Since its founding, more than 350,000 women have been part of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. The sorority currently has over 1,000 collegiate and alumnae chapters located in the United States, Canada, Japan, Germany, the Virgin Islands, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Jamaica, the Republic of Korea, the Arabian Gulf, Southern Africa, and Western Africa. Among the chapters is one in Toledo, Ohio.

The Toledo chapter notes in its history: "In 1937, the first chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in Toledo, Ohio was formed by seven young women. They were Louise Burgette, Mamie Duffy, Lillian Duffy, Constance Heslip, Mayola Senior, Ella P. Stewart, and Frances Wade. Beta Lambda Mixed Chapter consisted of undergraduates at The University Toledo, Mary Manse College and graduates residing in the city."

"On February 12, 1972, Lillian P. Benbow, the National President of Delta Sigma Theta, came to Toledo to establish the Alumnae Chapter. The graduate members formed the Toledo Alumnae Chapter and Beta Lambda became the city-wide undergraduate collegiate chapter."

"Delta has been involved in numerous activities that emphasize scholarship, public service, and international involvement. Breakfast for M'Lady has been its annual fundraiser for years at which graduating high school seniors are awarded scholarships. The chapter has also sponsored a Habitat for Humanity house in Africa. Voter registration activities, mentoring and tutoring children through its Delta Academy programs, sponsoring and participating in mental and physical health awareness events are just some of the ways the chapter has given back to our community."

Civil rights and social justice icon Angela Davis encouraged "We must always attempt to lift as we climb." For fifty years, the members of the Toledo Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta have done just that. Always in pursuit of higher goals through the generations, the women of the chapter have grown and nurtured future leaders. As they look back on a half-century of progress, I know they are inspired toward the next.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRED SERGEANT
MARIO SALAZAR ON THE OCCA-
SION OF HIS PASSING

HON. JAY OBERNOLTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the passing of retired Sergeant Mario Salazar of the San Bernardino County Sheriffs Department. Sergeant Salazar was born in Highland and served our community loyally for 28 years before retiring in January 2019. His passing on January 22nd of this year is a solemn loss for our San Bernardino County law enforcement community and the people of California's 8th District.

Sergeant Salazar began his career in California's 8th District in 1991 as a patrol duty officer at the Central Detention Center and the Fontana and Highland stations. He served our communities with outstanding dedication for 14 years before being promoted to detective in 2005 and then again to sergeant in 2009. Mario was critical to San Bernardino County Sheriffs Department operations during his 28-year tenure, and his leadership proved to be an invaluable asset.

Throughout his life, Mario was committed to our community. As a part of our sheriffs department he relished opportunities to engage with the community, to meet new people, and to lend a helping hand. Mario is survived by